

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0034] beginning on page 5 with the following replacement paragraph:

Referring to Figs. 8-10, end fittings 30 and 40 will be described. End fitting 30 is a universal fitting that configures the pipe section 20 for connection to various other components. End fitting 30 includes a hollow cylindrical body 32 having an outer diameter approximately equal to the inside diameter of the pipe section bore 24. The cylindrical body 32 includes one or more circumferential grooves 36 configured to receive o-ring seals (not shown) or the like. The o-ring seals seal between the cylindrical body 32 and the inside of the pipe section bore 24. A radial shoulder 34 extends outward from the cylindrical body 32 at one end thereof. The radial shoulder 34 has an outer diameter greater than the diameter of the pipe section bore 24 such that the radial shoulder 34 abuts against the end face 25 of the pipe section 20. The radial shoulder 34 includes a plurality of spaced bolt holes 35 configured to align with the bosses 26 of the pipe section 20. As shown in Fig. 9, fasteners 12 are passed through the bolt holes 35 and secured in the bosses 26 to secure the end fitting 30 to the pipe section 20. The radial shoulder 34 also includes a plurality of spaced apart bolt holes 37 configured to align with a mating component such that the end fitting 30 may be attached to other components as will be described hereinafter. Additionally, as shown in Fig. 2, the radial shoulder 34 is provided with a circular groove 38 along its face surface configured to receive an o-ring seal ~~(not shown)~~ 39 such that a seal is formed between the end fitting 30 and the other component.

Please replace paragraph [0036] beginning on page 6 with the following replacement paragraph:

Various other connectors can be configured to connect to the end fitting 30, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2. A tee connector 50 is provided with a connecting shoulder 52 at each pipe opening. Each shoulder 52 includes a plurality of bolt receiving bores 54 configured to align with the bolt holes 37 of the radial shoulder 34. As shown in Fig. 2, fasteners 12 are passed through the bolt holes 37 and received in the bolt receiving bores 54 to secure the end fitting 30 to the tee connector 50. The o-ring seal 39 or the like positioned in the end face groove 38 is configured to seal against the shoulder 52.

Please replace paragraph [0037] beginning on page 6 with the following replacement paragraph:

An elbow 60, with any desired bend, is provided with a connecting shoulder 62 at each end of the pipe. Each shoulder 62 includes a plurality of bolt receiving bores 64 configured to align with the bolt holes 37 of the radial shoulder 34. As shown in Fig. 2, fasteners 12 are passed through the bolt holes 37 and received in the bolt receiving bores 64 to secure the end fitting 30 to the elbow 60. The o-ring seal 39 or the like positioned in the end face groove 38 is configured to seal against the shoulder 62.

Please replace paragraph [0038] beginning on page 6 with the following replacement paragraph:

A straight adapter 70 is provided with a connecting shoulder 72 at one end thereof. The opposite end of the pipe is provided with a smooth or threaded surface (for example, see Fig. 2, item 73) for connection to piping or components of a different type, for example, existing steel piping. The shoulder 72 includes a plurality of bolt receiving bores 74 configured to align with the bolt holes 37 of the radial shoulder 34. As shown in Fig. 2, fasteners 12 are passed through the bolt holes 37 and received in the bolt receiving bores 74 to secure the end fitting 30 to the adapter 70. The o-ring seal 39 or the like positioned in the end face groove 38 is configured to seal against the shoulder 72.

Please replace paragraph [0039] beginning on page 7 with the following replacement paragraph:

Referring to Figs. 11 and 12, an end cap 120 connectable with the end fitting 30 is shown. The end cap 120 includes a plate 122 have a series of bolt receiving bores 124 configured to align with the bolt holes 37 of the radial shoulder 34. The plate 122 preferably has a smooth end surface 126 configured to engage and seal against the o-ring seal 39 or the like positioned in the end face groove 38. While the plate 122 is illustrated as a square, it can have a circular or other configuration. The illustrated end cap 120 also includes a connection port 128 configured to receive a connector 130. The illustrated connector 130 is configured to be received in the port 128 with a threaded portion 132 extending from the end cap plate 122. Various components can be attached to the threaded portion 132 of the connector 130, for example, a pressure gauge, a temperature gauge, additional piping and the like. The connector 130 preferably has a valve ball 134 or the like positioned therein. The ball 134 maintains the connector 130 in a sealed state until another component is connected thereto. Other connector and valve configurations can also be utilized. While the end cap 120 is illustrated with one port 128, more or fewer than one port 128 may be provided.

Please replace paragraph [0040] beginning on page 7 with the following replacement paragraph:

While it is preferred that the various connectors 40, 50, 60, 70 be provided with bolt receiving bores and that the end fitting shoulder 34 be provided with bolt holes 37, other connection means may also be utilized. For example, the end fitting shoulder 34 may have bolt receiving bores that receive fasteners extended through the various connectors. Alternatively, the end fitting shoulder 34 may not have any additional holes or bores, but instead, ~~self-taping~~ self-tapping fasteners 12 are utilized to secure the various connectors to the planar surface of the end fitting shoulder 34. Alternatively, the end fitting shoulder 34 may be manufactured with integral fasteners, for example threaded bolts, snap clips or the like, that are received in holes in the various connectors 40, 50, 60, 70. Other means of connecting the end fitting 30 to the various connectors 40, 50, 60, 70 are within the scope of this invention.